

## Message Text

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67

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 /089 W

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R 281625Z OCT 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4288

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 5861

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR

SUBJ: MBFR: FRENCH FOOTNOTE ON FRENCH FORCES IN THE NGA

REF: A. USNATO 5580 DTG 141535Z OCT 75;

B. USNATO 5741 DTG 220930Z OCT 75;

C. STATE 248365 DTG 180120Z OCT 75

1. DURING THE SEPTEMBER 27 SPC MEETING, NETHERLANDS REP (BUWALDA) NOTED THAT THE MBFR STAFF GROUP HAD INSERTED THE PROPOSED FRENCH FOOTNOTE (REF A) IN A WORKING PAPER AMENDING THE MBFR WORKING GROUP STUDY ON THE AVAILABILITY OF COMBAT UNITS (AC/276(MBFR DATA)-WP#75)3). THIS WAS CONTRARY TO THE UNDERSTANDING REACHED IN THE MBFR WG ON OCTOBER 27 THAT MBFR WG CHAIRMAN WOULD CHECK BACK WITH THE SPC BEFORE BEGINNING TO USE THE FRENCH FOOTNOTE (REF B); HE THEREFORE ASKED THAT MBFR STAFF GROUP DELETE THE FOOTNOTE UNTIL THE SPC TAKES A POSITION. REGARDING THE FOOTNOTE ITSELF, THE NETHERLANDS QUESTIONS THE NECESSITY FOR THE PROPOSED SECOND SENTENCE OF THE FOOT-  
SECRET

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NOTE. THAT SENTENCE GOES BEYOND THE EXISTING FOOTNOTE IN PARA 3 OF C-M(73)83, AND THE NETHERLANDS WOULD LIKE FRENCH TO EXPLAIN WHY THE EXISTING FOOTNOTE IS INADEQUATE. UNTIL THEN, THE NETHERLANDS WILL RESERVE ITS POSITION.

2. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPC (JUNG) RECALLED THAT THE SPC ON OCTOBER 13 HAD ONLY AGREED TO DISCUSS FRENCH REQUEST FURTHER. THE MBFR STAFF GROUP SHOULD THEREFORE WITHDRAW ITS WORKING PAPER. THE MC REP (SMITH) AGREED TO DO SO.

3. FRENCH REP (GUELLUY) SAID HE HAD NOT SEEN THE WORKING PAPER REFERRED TO BY NETHERLANDS REP. HE WOULD REPORT THE NETHERLANDS POSITION AND ASK FOR INSTRUCTIONS. HE POINTED OUT THAT FOOTNOTE IN PARA 3 OF C-M(73)83 WAS NOT FRENCH, BUT HAD BEEN DRAWN UP BY THE ALLIES AND SUGGESTED HIS AUTHORITIES MIGHT WISH TO HAVE THEIR OWN FOOTNOTE.

4. IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF C, US REP (MOORE) SAID THE US BELIEVES THE SECOND SENTENCE OF THE PROPOSED FRENCH FOOTNOTE IS A POLITICAL STATEMENT THAT IS INAPPROPRIATE FOR MBFR WG DOCUMENTS AND THAT THE STATUS OF FRENCH FORCES IS FULLY COVERED BY THE FOOTNOTE IN C-M(73)83. THE FRENCH REP ASKED IF THE ALLIES WISHED THEM TO DELETE SECOND SENTENCE OF THEIR PROPOSED FOOTNOTE AND JUST REFER TO THE FOOTNOTE IN C-M(73)83. THE US REP SAID HE PERSONALLY THOUGHT SUCH AN APPROACH MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE, DEPENDING ON THE VIEWS OF OTHER ALLIES.

5. THE FRENCH REP REQUESTED TIME FOR HIS AUTHORITIES TO REFLECT. IN THE MEANTIME, HE ASKED THAT THE REFERENCE TO FRENCH PLUTONS IN THE FRG BE DELETED FROM THE EARLIER MBFR WG STUDY ON "NATO FORCES IN THE NGA" (AC/276-D(75)6). THE MC REP SAID THIS WOULD BE DONE. BRUCE

SECRET

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**To:** STATE  
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